

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4843

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC, NPG

SUBJ: NPG - POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS TEAM MEETING

REF: USNATO 4240 (DTG 071750Z AUG 75)

1. FRG DELEGATION REP ASKED MISSION OFFICER WHETHER U.S. BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PROCEED WITH MEETING OF POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS TEAM (PIT) OF NPG TECHNOLOGY STUDY SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 22 - 23 (REFTEL). HE NOTED THAT, DUE TO LACK OF PROGRESS AT AUGUST MEETING OF THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS TEAM (MIT), THE PIT WOULD NOT HAVE SUBSTANTIVE MILITARY INPUTS ON WHICH TO BASE ITS EXAMINATION OF POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GERMAN PAPER ON POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS (PAPER DATED JULY 31, 1975 --POUCHED TO STATE AND DEFENSE) CONTAINED TWO PARTS, THE FIRST DEALING WITH GENERAL POLITICAL CRITERIA, AND THE SECOND WITH POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF NEW TECHNOLOGY. HE SAID THAT IF US WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE FIRST PART, HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVED IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PROCEED WITH THE SCHEDULED PIT MEETING; IF THE US CONSIDERED THAT PIT COULD NOT MAKE PROGRESS WITHOUT SPECIFIC MILITARY/TECHNOLOGY INPUTS FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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MIT, THEN HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVED THAT IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO POSTPONE THE SEPTEMBER 22-23 MEETING. FRG REP POINTED OUT THAT ALL OTHER COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN PIT ARE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO ATTEND THE MEETING, AND THAT IF US FAVORED POSTPONEMENT, HIS

AUTHORITIES NEEDED TO KNOW AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT NECESSARY STEPS COULD BE TAKEN. MISSION OFFICER SAID HE WOULD QUERY HIS AUTHORITIES, AND LET HIM KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. COMMENT: THE GERMAN PAPER PROVIDES A GOOD PRELIMINARY BASIS FOR WORK ON THE PIT, ALTHOUGH WE ARE SKEPTICAL THAT REAL PROGRESS CAN BE MADE AT SEPTEMBER 22-23 MEETING IN ABSENCE OF AGREED INPUTS FROM MIT. THERE ARE PENALTIES FOR US, HOWEVER, SHOULD WE BE SEEN AS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR CANCELLATION OR POSTPONEMENT OF UPCOMING PIT SESSION. IF WASHINGTON IS PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS IN PIT, WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, WE SHOULD GO FORWARD WITH SCHEDULED MEETING. IF NOT (DUE TO LACK OF MIT INPUT AND/OR STATUS OF OTHER US INITIATIVES IN MODERNIZATION AREA), IT MAY BE LESS DAMAGING IN LONG RUN TO PROPOSE DEFERRAL OF THE PIT MEETING, BUT WE MUST GIVE FRG OUR VIEWS AND OTHERS A SUITABLE RATIONALE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. STREATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

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